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THE BAPTIST  
**Record**  
 JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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# Homosexual protection tucked in bill

WASHINGTON (BP and local reports) — Despite objections that it would infringe on the religious liberty of pastors and other faith leaders, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a defense bill October 8 that includes historic hate crimes protections for homosexuals.

The 2010 defense authorization bill, which passed 281-146, has little if anything to do with hate crimes but is being used as a vehicle to pass hate crimes legislation. The defense bill (H.R. 2647) now goes to the U.S. Senate, where a similar version already passed earlier this year.

**Mississippi**  
Representatives  
Travis Childers,  
Bennie Thompson,  
and Gene Taylor —  
all Democrats —  
voted yes on the bill.  
**Republican**  
Representative Gregg  
Harper voted no.

Lobbyists for homosexual organizations for years have supported expanding the hate crimes law but failed, either because Republicans controlled Congress or the White House, or both. With Democrats now in charge of both Congress and the White House, however, the prospects of passage appear good.

If the bill becomes law, it would be the biggest federal legislative victory for homosexual organizations to date.

U.S. President Barack Obama, cheered by homosexual rights groups because of his positive positions on a wide range of their agenda, supports hate crimes protections which, according to the text of the legislation, would give the U.S. Attorney General the authority to investigate crimes that are "motivated by prejudice" based on the "actual or perceived... sexual orientation [or] gender identity" of a person.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, sent a letter October 7 to House Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, urging him to support efforts to strip hate crimes from the defense bill.

The defense bill that passed the House was the result of a House-Senate conference compromise. The conference committee nixed funding for the F-22 fighter plane — funding opposed by Obama that had initiated a veto threat if included — and left in funding for F-35 engines, also opposed by Obama.

It is unclear whether Obama would veto the defense bill in its current state.

U.S. Rep. Mike Pence, R-Ind., said on the floor that he "disdains" discrimination but that passage of the hate crimes legislation would chill religious freedoms.

"Under Section 2 of Title 18 of the U.S. Code today," Pence said, "an individual may be held criminally liable who aids, abets, counsels, commands, or induces or procures in the commission of a federal crime. Therefore, to put a fine point on it, any pastor, preacher, priest, rabbi, or imam who may give a sermon out of their moral traditions about

Boehner, speaking at a news conference, called the attachment of hate crimes to the defense bill an abuse of the legislative process.

"It's an abuse of power by Speaker [Nancy] Pelosi and [Senate] Majority Leader [Harry] Reid, and it's offensive," Boehner said. "It's offensive to me and a lot of my members, and that's why I will vote and urge my colleagues to vote no... The idea that we're going to pass a law that's going to add further charges to someone based on what they may have been thinking, I think is wrong."

Pelosi, D.-Calif., was undeterred and in a celebratory mood at her press conference.

"It's a very exciting day for us here in the capital... When I came to Congress 22 years ago, hate crimes legislation was one of the items on my agenda."

Land asserted in the letter to Boehner that hate crimes legislation would infringe on religious speech. "Since the bill specifies a hate crime 'is motivated by prejudice based on the actual or perceived' 'sexual orientation' or 'gender identity' of a victim, prosecutors and judges would assume the precarious position of judging thoughts," Land wrote. "This could create a chilling effect on religious speech, connecting innocent expression of religious belief to acts of violence against individuals afforded special protections."

"The criminalization of religious speech, such as speech against the practice of homosexuality, has already been seen in other countries with similar hate crimes legislation in place."

Land also said hate crimes protections are unnecessary and unconstitutional and would afford special protections to some individuals but deny such protections to others.

"This would turn on its head the 14th Amendment, which grants equal protection under the law," Land wrote.

The hate crimes legislation was named in part for Matthew Shepard, the young homosexual who was beaten to death while tied to a fence in Wyoming in 1998. Although some have argued Shepard's death was the result of a hate crime, the murderers told ABC News in a 2004 interview they instead were motivated by a desire for money to purchase methamphetamine.

**NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT  
FOR 2010 (H.R. 2647)**

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, FINAL VOTE: 281-146

	<b>Travis Childers</b> <i>First Congressional District</i>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Bennie Thompson</b> <i>Second Congressional District</i>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Gregg Harper</b> <i>Third Congressional District</i>	<b>No</b>
	<b>Gene Taylor</b> <i>Fourth Congressional District</i>	<b>Yes</b>

sexual practices could presumably under this legislation be found to have aided, abetted, or induced in the commission of a federal crime.

"This will have a chilling effect on religious expression from the pulpits, in our temples, in our mosques, and in our churches."

The bill criminalizes thought, Pence said. "Adding hate crimes provisions in this defense bill puts us on a slippery slope of deeming particular groups as more important than others under our system of justice," he said.

Harper, apparently the lone Mississippi Congressman to issue a public statement through his web site, agreed. "This reckless language that would criminalize thought should be removed from a bill that is intended to benefit our men and women in uniform," Harper said.

"It is unfortunate that the Democratic leadership would jeopardize our national security interests by combining two completely unrelated bills in order to promote their liberal social agenda," Harper pointed out.

Editor's note: For a Q&A on the hate crimes bill, visit <http://bpnews.net/bpnews.asp?id=30910>.

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## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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**G**ambling in all its many  
now-legal forms has for  
years been promoted to the  
American people as a way to get  
rich quick and short-circuit all the  
quaint old notions about ambition  
and working hard to get ahead. Very  
few months pass without big news-  
paper headlines describing someone  
down on their luck who has just  
won a million dollars at a  
casino or \$150 million in a  
multi-state lottery.

Facing bankruptcy?  
Can't pay your medical  
bills? Is the mortgage com-  
pany foreclosing on your  
home? No problem!  
Everything can be taken  
care of by spinning the  
wheels of casino machines  
or buying a fistful of lot-  
tery tickets — because we  
all know that money  
solves everything, right?

Not exactly. The web  
site, Bankrate.com, in  
2004 published a series of  
authoritative articles written  
by Ellen Goodstein that really

nails down the fantasy/fallacy of gam-  
bling as a ticket to Easy Street.

"For a lot of people, winning the lot-  
tery is the American dream. But for  
many lottery winners, the reality is more  
like a nightmare," Goodstein writes.

"Winning the lottery isn't always  
what it's cracked up to be," says Evelyn  
Adams, who won the New Jersey lottery  
not just once but twice (1985, 1986) to the  
tune of \$5.4 million. Today the money is  
all gone and Adams lives in a trailer.

"I won the American dream but I lost  
it, too. It was a very hard fall. It's called  
rock bottom," says Adams.

Another lottery winner tracked down  
by Goodstein, William "Bud" Post, won  
more than \$16 million in the Pennsylvania  
lottery in 1988. Within a year, all the

## All that glitters...



money was gone, and he was one million  
dollars in debt. His brother allegedly  
attempted to hire a hit man to kill him for  
the money, and Post himself served a sen-  
tence for shooting at a bill collector.

Post is now bankrupt and living off \$450  
a month in Social Security and food  
stamps. "I wish it never happened. It was  
totally a nightmare," he told Goodstein.

Other lottery winners who actually  
lost in the long run, according to  
Goodstein, include:

- Suzanne Mullins, who won \$4.2 mil-  
lion in the Virginia Lottery in 1993. She is  
now deeply in debt and facing a judgment  
against her of nearly \$155,000.

- Ken Proxmire, who won one million  
dollars in the Michigan lottery. Within five  
years, he was forced to file bankruptcy.

- Willie Hurt, who also won the  
Michigan lottery to the tune of \$3.1 million

in 1989. Two years later, he was pen-  
niless and charged with murder.

- Janite Lee won \$16 million in the  
Missouri Lottery in 1993 but filed for  
bankruptcy a few years later with  
only \$700 in assets.

- A winner who wished to be iden-  
tified only as being from the Southeast  
won a \$4.2 million lottery jackpot in  
the early 1990s but is now broke,  
divorced, and living with his/her  
adult children.

All of those horror stories are  
merely one dark side of legalized  
gambling that Mississippians  
should consider when we are con-  
fronted with the next pie-in-the-sky  
scheme from the gambling/ political  
complex in this state.

As a matter of fact, Mississippi  
could be the next sad entry if  
Goodstein chooses to update her  
losers list. As legislators convene in  
early January 2010 to face what could  
be the most serious state budget crisis  
in decades, we should all remem-

ber that the gambling/political complex  
assured us (and continues to assure us to  
this day) that legalized gambling will  
have us rolling in money forever.

Our schools were supposed to flush  
with perpetual funding, but instead many  
are struggling to make ends meet in this  
economic downturn some experts have  
begun to refer to as the Great Recession.

We all remember when our highways  
were going to be the envy of the nation —  
thanks to gambling money — but Butch  
Brown, the Mississippi Department of  
Transportation's executive director, has just  
proposed an additional gas tax burden of  
five cents per gallon on the citizens of  
Mississippi. Where is the gambling money?

The unfulfilled predictions could go  
on, *ad infinitum*.

We've heard it many times from many  
wise people: We cannot gamble our way to  
prosperity. When will we come to our senses?

## GUEST OPINION:

### At home, finally

By Terry Long, pastor  
Lilly Orchard Church  
Moss Point

**A**fter twenty-five years of  
serving churches in four  
states as a fully supported  
minister, I finally feel at home  
serving a small, rural church as  
a bivocational pastor — and I  
am loving it. In all my years I  
have never enjoyed the ministry  
as I am enjoying it today.

Part of the reason for that is  
my "other job." Four days a  
week I am Terry Long, Painting  
Contractor. I go on construction  
sites painting new homes, old  
homes, repaints, and remodel-  
ing jobs. I do about 80% resi-  
dential and about 20% commer-  
cial, and in almost every situa-  
tion, I am given the opportunity  
to minister to someone in the  
name of Jesus Christ. For those  
four days, I am still a minister  
of the Gospel, but because I am  
dressed in painter whites, most  
people don't know it.

I don't tell them, either,  
although it doesn't take them  
long to figure out that there is  
something different about the  
painter. Eventually they ask,  
and then I tell them, but by that  
time I have earned their respect  
and they usually open up to me  
and tell me about their prob-  
lems and their lives. As a bivo,

get to rub shoulders with more  
sinners in a month than I did in  
a year when I was wearing a  
suit and tie every day. I have  
had the chance to witness to  
some, pray with and for others,  
and become friends with many.  
It is a wonderful experience. I  
have decided that if God will let  
me, I will remain a bivocational  
minister for the rest of my life.

Bivocational ministry  
seems to help me stay more  
grounded and balanced. I am  
more of a "regular kind of  
guy." My wife really loves this  
aspect of bivocational min-  
istry. I love my church with all  
my heart, but it is good to talk  
about other things sometimes.  
I feel healthier, less likely to  
burn out, and I have more  
freedom than I did before.

Because I work at another  
job, my church is gracious  
about not putting so many  
demands on me. They respect  
the fact that I "work," just like  
them. They are more willing to  
carry some of the ministerial  
load, yet the amazing thing is I  
feel that I am doing just as  
much ministry now as I ever  
did in the larger churches.

Each Sunday, I teach a  
Sunday School class of middle  
aged adults, preach a morning  
message, lead a children's ser-  
mon, conduct a weekly work-  
ers' meeting at night, and  
preach a Sunday evening mes-  
sage. I visit on Fridays and at  
other times, make calls to vis-  
itors and guests, visit hospi-  
tals, and send out letters. I am  
not a financial burden on the

church, although they are  
very generous with me and  
compensate me more than  
they should.

I know I can only speak for  
myself, but my life has changed  
dramatically for the good since  
becoming bivocational — and I  
am at home with it.

Oh, just one more thing.  
Small, rural churches with  
bivocational pastors can grow.  
Our little church is growing. Six  
years ago, we had twelve in  
attendance. Today we are aver-  
aging 70.

Two weeks ago during a one  
day revival, we had a record  
attendance of 192 with twenty  
professions of faith.

I am seeing God pour His  
Spirit out on a little congrega-  
tion that has dared to believe  
God can still do wonders.

Be encouraged, my bivo  
brothers. Remember this: God  
has called some to be success-  
ful, and others to just be faith-  
ful. Be faithful, and leave the  
success part to God. Stay with  
the stuff. Preach the Word.  
Love your people. Bloom  
where you are planted, and  
you, too, can find a home in  
bivocational ministry.



# Religious leaders note Obama's Nobel prize

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP and local reports) — Reaction has been mixed among the religious community since learning last week U.S. President Barack Obama won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Obama and much of the world community were surprised by the announcement, yet the Norwegian Nobel Committee voiced no apprehensions about the future of his presidency but commended him on what has been achieved so far in his nine-month presidency, "for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples," including how the president has "powerfully stimulated disarmament and arms control negotiations."

"I hate to say it, but it's not unusual for the Nobel Peace Prize committee to play politics," said Richard Land, president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, during his weekly radio show on October 10. "They've done this before, and they've done it particularly in recent years. They gave the Nobel Peace Prize to Jimmy Carter in 2002. They said they hoped at the time this was a kick in the knee for then-President George W. Bush. They gave it to Al Gore, the former vice president of the United States."

Land said he thinks the Nobel committee wants to influence Obama, particularly regarding the war in Afghanistan. "They are lobbying Barack Obama by giving him this Nobel Peace Prize. They are lobbying him to take an even more internationalist

foreign policy, and they're trying to make it more difficult for him to keep his promise to fight the war in Afghanistan and to increase the troops," Land said.

A news release issued by the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), which was holding an Evangelical Leaders Forum in the Washington area touching on nuclear weapons and such issues as immigration, the environment, and sexuality, quoted NAE President Leith Anderson as saying: "I first heard the call for a world free of nuclear weapons from President Ronald Reagan when he addressed the National Association of Evangelicals over 25 years ago. The Nobel prize for President Obama acknowledges and perpetuates the Reagan vision."

The news release also quoted NAE board member Joel Hunter, pastor of Northland — A Church Distributed, in Longworth, FL, as saying, "The ambition to free future generations from the fear of indiscriminate destruction is a truly nonpartisan ambition that resonates with our deepest moral convictions."

The news release stated that the NAE "has a long history of speaking out on nuclear issues. Its 1986 'Peace, Freedom, and Security Studies' called for the need to balance disarmament goals with a concern for human rights and freedom. More recently, the NAE co-sponsored a 2008 consultation at the Hoover Institution with Ronald Reagan's Secretary of State, George Shultz, to explore the need to re-engage the nuclear issue in the post-Cold War, post-9/11 era."

Bill Donohue, president of the Catholic League for

Religious and Civil Rights, reacted to the announcement by saying in part: "Unlike another Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Mother Teresa, who said abortion was 'the greatest destroyer of peace,' Obama has never indicated that abortion undermines the cause of peace. Indeed, he champions abortion as if it were a sacred right."

"If he wants to pivot at this juncture, Catholics will welcome it," Donohue said.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee, in its announcement, stated that Obama has "created a new climate in international politics. Multilateral diplomacy has regained a central position, with emphasis on the role that the United Nations and other international institutions can play. Dialogue and negotiations are preferred as instruments for resolving even the most difficult international conflicts. ... Democracy and human rights are to be strengthened."

The committee also commended Obama for how "the USA is now playing a more constructive role in meeting the great climatic challenges the world is confronting."

"Only very rarely," the committee said, "has a person to the same extent as Obama captured the world's attention and given its people hope for a better future. For 108 years, the Norwegian Nobel Committee has sought to stimulate precisely that international policy and those attitudes for which Obama is now the world's leading spokesman. The Committee endorses Obama's appeal that 'Now is the time for all of us to take our share of responsibility for a global response to global challenges.'"

Obama, speaking at the

White House, said he was "both surprised and deeply humbled" by the award.

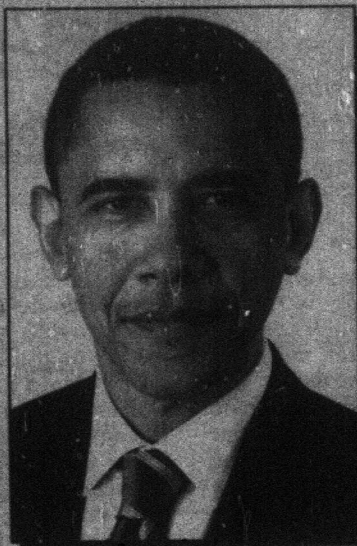
"To be honest, I do not feel that I deserve to be in the company of so many of the transformative figures who've been honored by this prize — men and women who've inspired me and inspired the entire world through their courageous pursuit of peace," Obama said, "but I also know that this prize reflects the kind of world that those men and women, and all Americans, want to build — a world that gives life to the

promise of our founding documents — and I know that throughout history, the Nobel Peace Prize has not just been used to honor specific achievement; it's also been used as a means to give momentum to a set of causes and that is why I will accept this award as a call to action — a call for all nations to confront the common challenges of the 21st century."

Obama is expected to accept the award Dec. 10 in Oslo, Norway, the White House said. Alfred B. Nobel, a Swedish chemist and arms manufacturer, is credited with inventing dynamite and introducing innovative weaponry through his arms manufacturing company.

When he died of a stroke in 1896, his will set aside the equivalent of more than \$250 million (in 2008 dollars) for the annual awarding of five prizes for eminence in the fields of physical science, chemistry, medical science/physiology, literature, and peace.

In addition to Obama, U.S. presidents who have won the peace award include Jimmy Carter, Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson.



Obama



## THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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No. 41



YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)

2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)

3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)

4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

## Women imprisoned

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Two young women are still being held in Iran's notorious Evin Prison after refusing to deny Jesus Christ and return to Islam. Maryam Rostampour, 27, and Marzieh Amirizadeh, 30, were detained by Iranian security officers in March after being arrested on grounds of being "anti-government" and "a threat to national security," according to freethem.com, a website dedicated to winning their release. At an Aug. 9 hearing in Tehran's Revolutionary Court, the two learned the sole charge against them is apostasy, or leaving Islam. When the judge told them they would be executed if they did not recant their faith, the two reportedly told him to expedite the sentence. The pair subsequently were returned to the prison, where friends say their health is deteriorating because of unsanitary conditions and lack of medical care, the website reported. Authorities set bail of \$400,000 and their families have offered the deeds to their homes but no judge apparently is willing to review the case. In mid-September, women dressed in white gathered outside Iran's embassy in London for a prayer vigil supported by the advocacy group Christian Solidarity Worldwide, according to the worthynews.com website. "Neither woman has committed a crime under Iranian or international law. We wholeheartedly stand in solidarity with Maryam and Marzieh, who are being held solely on the basis of exercising their most basic right: freedom of thought, conscience and belief," CSW's Mervyn Thomas said in a statement released after the demonstration. "Scores of illegal detentions of Christian converts in Iran" have been reported this year, Thomas added. "We strongly urge the Iranian Government to release these innocent women immediately." Iranian courts recently sentenced three people to death for protesting recent elections on the grounds that the elections were corrupt.

## Looking back

10 years ago

Long-time philanthropist and business leader Wiley Fairchild of Hattiesburg announces on Oct. 13 the donation of \$250,000 to Baptist-affiliated William Carey College in Hattiesburg for the establishment of the J. Ralph Noonkester Endowed Professorship of History.

20 years ago

Over 700 college students from around the state gather at Alta Woods Church, Jackson, for the 1979 Student Convention. Students approve a \$100,000 fund raising goal to send 90 students as summer missionaries in 1990.

30 years ago

Definite plans for the remodeling, furnishing, and equipping of Gulfshore Assembly for use beginning with the summer season of 1960 are launched as a result of action by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at its regular October meeting.



# BIBLIOPHET

By Charles Marx, 1932-2004  
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ZJU CXDI GXZMM  
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GDZ, ZJU KBEV CXD  
JBCX DODJ CE CXD  
DZGC, CXDI GXZMM  
BFJ CE ZJU KBE CE  
GDDW CXD QEBU EK  
CXD MEBU, ZJU GXZMM  
JEC KTJU TC.

ZVEG DTLXC: CQDMOD

**Clue: Q=W**  
Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Hosea Fourteen: Two

## RELIGIOUS NONES

Most of us are familiar with nuns. Of course, they are the ladies in the Catholic Church who serve in various capacities and are members of a variety of orders — teaching, nursing, and seeking to help their fellow man in dozens of different ways. While most of us are familiar with these types of nuns, we may not be as familiar with some new religious "nones" that have emerged mostly across America. These nones are the folks who, when filling out some application or form that asks for religious preference, either check a box or write in "none." The thing that is most interesting about many of these folks is not the fact that they do not consider themselves spiritual, religious, or maybe even genuine believers so much as they prefer not to be connected with any particular church or denomination.

In fact, there are surveys that show many of these people consider themselves rather religious and deeply spiritual, but on the other hand rarely attend any kind of worship service and have even less interaction with people in a faith setting. There are a number of things that characterize their lives and their spiritual experiences.

One of the characteristics is that they generally are in search of what's in it for them. They would not agree that they are self-centered or selfish in their approach. They are

highly motivated to discover what is in it for them. They would describe organized religions as efforts to show folks what is in it for others and maybe even point to what might be in it for God. Basically, what they want to know is what they get out of it.

Another characteristic is that to some degree they want to shape their own religion. It could be described as, rather than buying a CD where you get all of the songs, you have an iPod and just download the individual songs that you like. It's a cafeteria approach to religion where one just walks around, picks out the piece that you like, and rejects the piece for which you do not particularly care. These new religious nones are a growing segment of our American landscape. Recognizing this new order of nones should be a wakeup call for the church. I do not have time or space here, but I would just point out three things that the church might do in response to the nones.

**The church must disagree more graciously.** One of the things from which the nones have walked away is the bitterness and rancor in relationships in the church body itself. There may not be a reader of this article who does not know someone who is no longer involved in the work of the Lord because of the absolute, painful meanness believers have shown to each other over some issue. It is hard to describe the depth of mean and strident behavior, of

## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

which saints are capable. Even if you have never been the target of such attacks, watching the viciousness with which people in the church deal with others is shocking. There is no defense for such behavior and yet we have at times hurt and been hurt to the point that it leaves people emotionally and spiritually crushed. You used to hear people talking about how we can disagree without being disagreeable. That is probably a true and meaningful statement, but however you disagree on some point of information, goal, or practice in the church, it should be laced with and permeated with the grace of Jesus.

**The church must proclaim more clearly.** The church is not just a vehicle to preach the Good News that Jesus loves and saves. The church is the living embodiment of Christ Himself. We are His body. We are His bride. Our proclamation must be clear. The Bible is not just a book of ideas through which you can meander, picking out what thoughts you want to shape your theological perspective. The Bible is not a pick-and-choose book. It is a Word from God about Him, about us, about the need in our life for a Savior, and the design of a fellowship called the church that will nurture us and help us to

mature in effective service. Biblically, you cannot just choose to be a Jesus lover and not care about His church.

**The church must love more intentionally.** Before Jesus left His disciples, He said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, because you have love one for another" (John 13:35). As you reflect on that verse, you realize that Jesus was saying that for a world that is watching us, the mark of authentic faith, genuine commitment, and the real deal kind of Christianity, is going to be permeated with love for one another. So instead of having all of the church programs that the nones want to reject, what if God's people would start showing up for worship to love one another? Come to choir practice and express love to fellow believers or come to a deacons' meeting, attend a Sunday School class, a social gathering, or a visitation event all designed to show the love of Jesus in its purest and most powerful way?

Would it make a difference? I don't know what it would do to the nones, but I know what it would do to the folks who are participating in a congregation of Jesus followers. It will make an incredible difference.

My prayer is that the folks who have drifted off to become a part of this order of religious nones will see their numbers shrink as the people of God draw them in to an environment of love, faith, and meaningful encounters with the living Lord Jesus.

The author can be contacted at [jfutral@mbcb.org](mailto:jfutral@mbcb.org).

## COLLEGE NEWS

1. Jerry Rankin, president, International Mission Board, will give the Carey Lecture at William Carey University Oct. 19, 9:30 a.m., Smith Auditorium.
2. Former University of Mississippi Chancellor Robert Khayat will be the keynote speaker at Mississippi College's (MC) Wild Game Dinner Nov. 5, 6:30 p.m. For information, call Missa Turman at (601) 925-3341 or email [turman@mc.edu](mailto:turman@mc.edu).
3. Blue Mountain College (BMC) recently announced that it will add golf programs for men and women to its athletics lineup in fall 2010.
4. The Mississippi College Department of Music is sponsoring a holiday dinner show Nov. 20 and is inviting children in grades 2-6 to take part in the show. \$30 participation fee, which includes a T-shirt and rehearsal CD. To register for the Oct. 17 audition date or for more information, call Carol Joy Sparkman at (601) 925-3449 or email [music@mc.edu](mailto:music@mc.edu).
5. Mississippi College social work program director Brian Anderson was recently selected as Mississippi Social Work Educator of the Year at the 38th annual Alabama/Mississippi Social Work Education Conference.
6. Mississippi College hosted the 76th annual conference of the Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities Oct. 5.
7. High school and community college students from throughout the region will visit Blue Mountain College on Oct. 16-17 for Fall Fest 2009. Students will stay in the residence halls with current BMC students, eat in the dining hall, attend a performance of the musical Children of Eden by the theatre department, go on a hayride, review the Christian college experience, receive scholarship and financial aid information, and attend mock classes. Parents can also attend Fall Fest. Registration is at 5 p.m., Oct. 16 and the Fall Fest concludes at 1 p.m., Oct. 17. For complete information, call (800) 235-0136 or go online at [www.bmc.edu](http://www.bmc.edu).

**PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST ON 84** West Brookhaven, Ms., is seeking organ player. Send resume to Danny W. Mullins, chairman music committee, 2295 Tiger Trl. S. W. Brookhaven, Ms. 39601

**STEEP HOLLOW BAPTIST CHURCH,** Poplarville, Miss., is seeking God's man for our full time Senior Pastor position. Please mail resumes to 2336 Hwy 53, Poplarville, MS 39470 or e-mail to [shbadmin@hugobaptist.net](mailto:shbadmin@hugobaptist.net)

**BREWER BAPTIST CHURCH** is seeking a Youth & Children's Director that can help us prepare our future leaders not only for tomorrow, but for an eternity. Deadline for application is 10-31-09. Please send resume to 24 Otho Sellers Rd., Richmon, MS 39476 or email [ymministry@yahoo.com](mailto:ymministry@yahoo.com)

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**EASTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH** Belzoni, Ms. is seeking an energetic, Spirit filled man of God for fulltime Youth Ministry. Resume to: Eastside Baptist Church Youth resume 808 Virginia Street Belzoni, Ms 39038 email: [Eastsidebaptist@bellsouth.net](mailto:Eastsidebaptist@bellsouth.net)

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# Fate of cross display in hands of U.S. Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (BP and local reports) — The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments October 7 on the display of a cross in the middle of federal land, but justices seemed to indicate it would not address whether the war memorial violated the First Amendment's ban on government establishment of religion.

The justices also appeared to bypass the question of whether the "offended observer" had legal standing to file a suit. Instead, they focused much of their attention on whether Congress violated a lower-court injunction in transferring the land on which the cross stands to a private organization.

The case, *Salazar v. Buono*, involves a 75-year-old World War I memorial that consists of a cross standing on the land of a national preserve in California's Mojave Desert.

In 2001, a retired National Park Service employee who had worked at the preserve sued the federal government. Frank Buono, who now lives in Oregon, contended he was offended by the cross' display on public property on which other types of displays were not permitted.

A federal judge and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, considered the most liberal as well as the most overturned appeals court circuit in the country, ruled Buono had legal standing. They also decided the display violated the establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution, which prohibits establishment of a religion by government.

After the federal court's ruling, which also permanently blocked the cross' display, the government covered the cross with a wooden box. The cross, described as between five feet and eight feet in height, is still covered.

In 2004, Congress responded to the ruling by transferring the property on which the cross stands to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in exchange for another piece of privately owned land in the preserve. The federal judge, however, ruled Congress' action violated the injunction and permanently blocked the federal government from completing the land transfer.

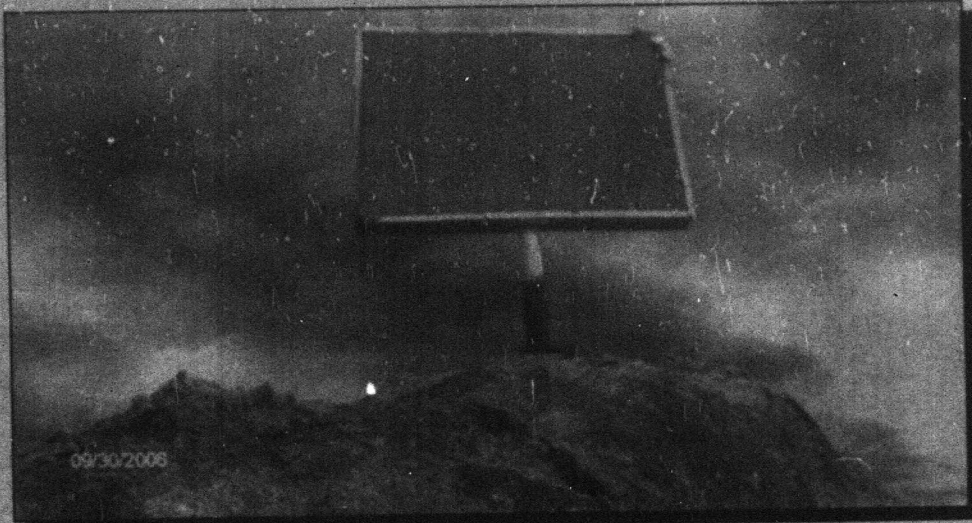
The Ninth Circuit affirmed the judge's ruling in 2007.

In defending the cross, U.S. Solicitor General Elena Kagan told the justices the federal government believes the question is no longer "whether the display by the government would be constitutional, but only whether the government has the ability to transfer this property and... give up all supervision" to the VFW.

U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Stephen Breyer disagreed. "The injunction says the government is enjoined from permitting the display of the Latin cross, period," he told Kagan. "Once this law takes effect and you follow it, you are violating that injunction. You don't need nine proceedings to see that. You are violating it."

U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonin Scalia rebutted Breyer, saying, "It seems to me unreasonable to read the injunction to say the government shall not permit anybody to display a cross on that land no matter who owns the land. I assume the injunction meant you will not permit the cross to be displayed on this parcel of government land."

Later, U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice John Paul Stevens asked Kagan if she acknowledged the establishment clause was violated at the time the federal judge ruled in Buono's favor.



**OFFENDING DISPLAY** — The Mojave Desert cross war memorial in California currently is covered due to a judge's order. The U.S. Supreme Court recently heard an appeal of the judge's order, which had been upheld earlier by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. A ruling is expected by the middle of next year. (BP photo courtesy of courtzero.org)

No, Kagan told him. "The government has argued... that there was no violation prior to the transfer statute, and that remains the government's position, although, as I said to Justice Scalia, we think that that position has been overtaken by events and that the only question before the court is the transfer statute," she said.

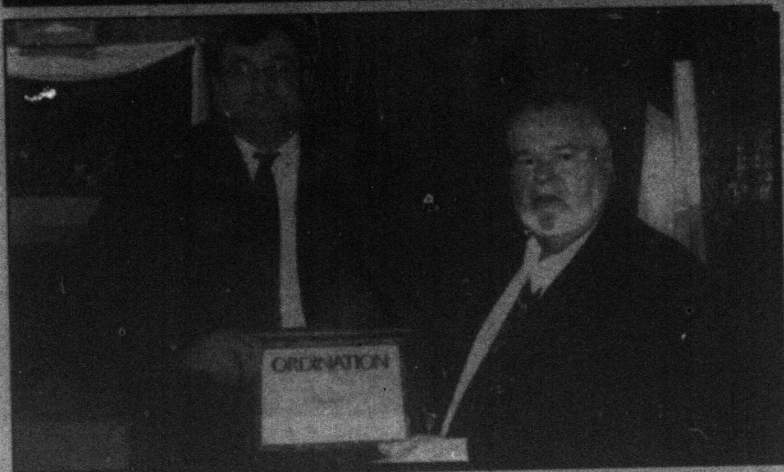
Peter Eliasberg, an American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) lawyer, told the justices the government had violated the establishment clause by designating the display as a national memorial, by making certain "the cross remains up" and by favoring the "same

parties that it has always favored in this case to the exclusion of others."

Afterward, Jeff Shafer of the Alliance Defense Fund (ADF) in Orlando, FL, which joined in a friend-of-the-court brief contending Buono had not suffered and did not have legal standing to bring suit, told Baptist Press he left the court's chamber "very confused about what the court is going to do."

"I walked in thinking this was going to be predominantly a question of standing that was going to be addressed, but it seems that the court really was more focused on the minutiae of the posture" of the case, he said.

## JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Oak Grove Church, Smithdale

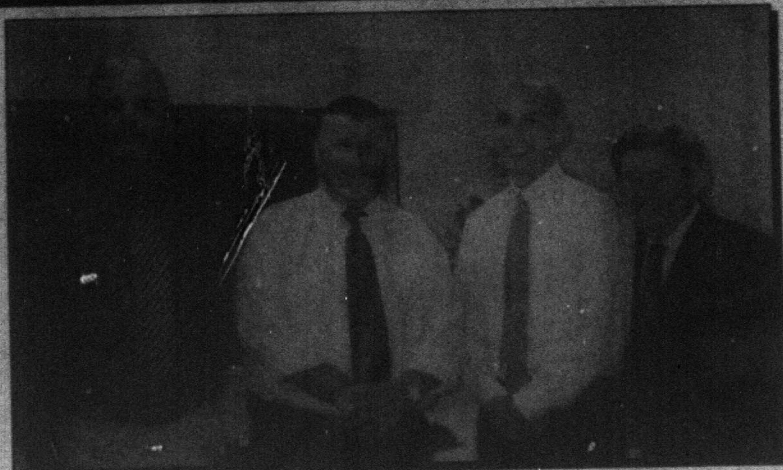
1. Oak Grove Church, Smithdale, recently ordained James Etheridge as deacon. Shown are Etheridge and pastor Eric Naquin.

2. Star Church, Star, ordained Don Watts as deacon Oct. 4. Shown are pastor Vic Bowman, Watts, and Gary Glass.

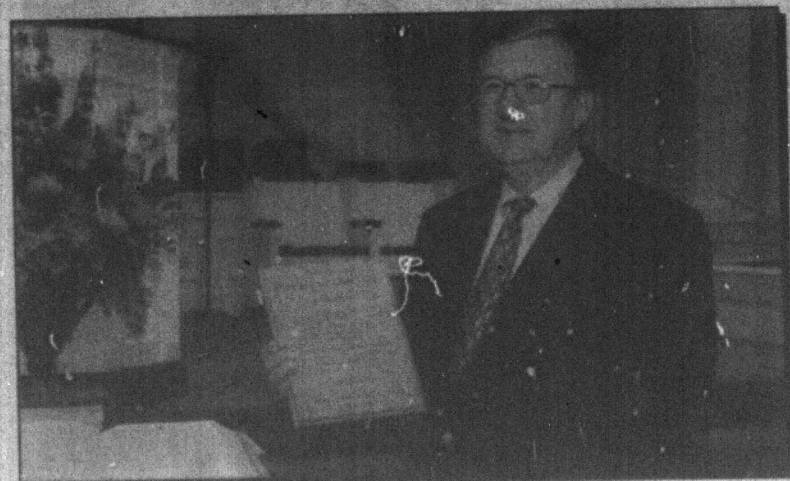
3. First Church, Pearl, ordained Reed Luper, David Smith, and Jason Ward as deacons Sept. 27. Shown are Luper, Smith, Ward, and interim pastor Sonny Adkins.

4. First Church, Vicksburg, recognized James C. (Jim) Hess for 25 years of ministry at the church. He was roasted at the church's senior adult meeting and honored with a plaque and gift during the Oct. 4 worship service. Shown is Hess and his plaque.

Visit us online at [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org) to learn more about Mississippi Baptist opportunities.



3. First Church, Pearl



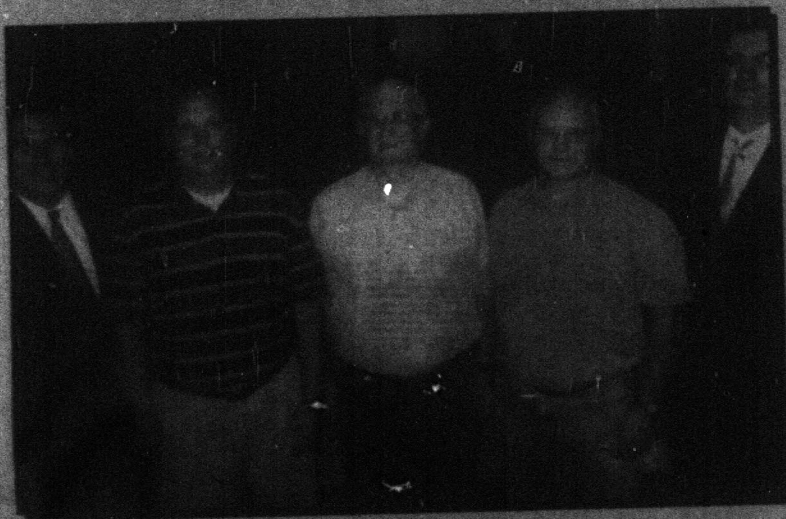
4. First Church, Vicksburg



## JUST FOR THE RECORD



4. Center Hill Church, Olive Branch



5. First Church, Terry



6. Slayden Church, Lamar



7. Macedonia Church, Petal

1. Whitesand Church, Prentiss, ordained Mitchell Roberts as deacon Sept. 13.

2. Antioch Church, Union, will be hosting Friend Day Oct. 18.

3. Calvary Church, Columbia, recognized Buford Ashley as deacon emeritus Sept. 27, honoring him with a plaque to commemorate his 50 years of service as deacon.

4. Center Hill Church, Olive Branch, recognized Yolanda (Angel), James, Marcel, and Cody Britt for Sunday School perfect attendance, Oct. 5, 2008 - Sept. 27, 2009. Shown, top row, are Angel and James (parents); bottom row, Marcel and Cody (children).

5. First Church, Terry, recently ordained Mike Nixon, Junius Jordan, and Steve Coats as deacons. Shown are pastor John Pace, Nixon, Jordan, Coats, and Tommy Strickland.

6. Slayden Church, Lamar, held a yard sale Sept. 26. The proceeds of \$4700 were used for the general fund and the 2010 VBS. Shown are some of the participants.

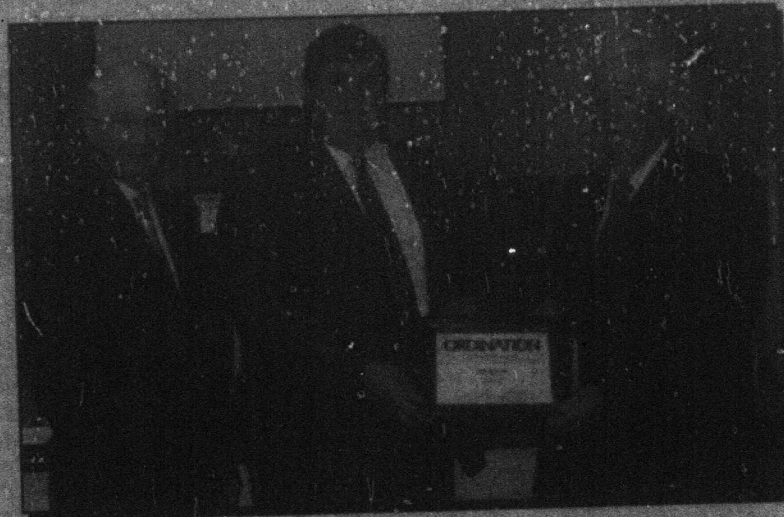
7. Macedonia Church, Petal, ordained Michael Palmer as deacon. Shown are Brittany Palmer, Palmer, daughter Lexie, and pastor Mark Farris.

8. Trinity Church, Vicksburg, ordained Adam Cook as a deacon Sept. 27. Shown are William Cook, Cook, and Steve Cook.

9. Parkway Church, Houston, held a 40th anniversary and debt retirement Aug. 30. Shown is the note burning for the church's family life center on Sept. 13.

10. Calvary Church, Oak Grove, recently ordained Vince Havard as deacon. Shown, front, are pastor Jeff Floyd and Havard; back, Buddy Wallace and Phillip Nobles.

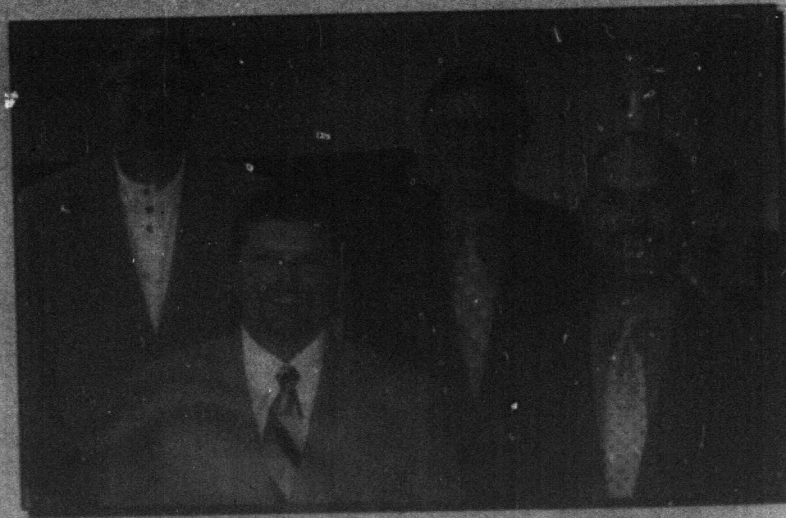
11. A mission team from Whitesand Church, Prentiss, traveled to Nucla, Colorado, where they did construction work on First Church, Nucla. Shown are Shirley Burnham, Charles Burnham, Mike Pittman, Lucille Griffith, Sarah Burnett, Bobby Shivers, David Hayes, Harry Carter, and Nathan Barber.



8. Trinity Church, Vicksburg



9. Parkway Church, Houston



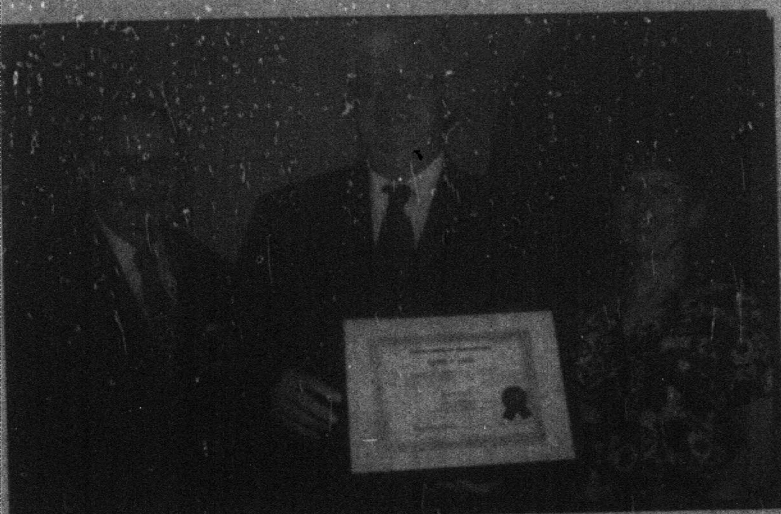
10. Calvary Church, Oak Grove



11. Whitesand Church, Prentiss



## JUST FOR THE RECORD



13. Edwards Church, Edwards



14. Mt. Horeb Church, Collins



15. First Church, State Line



16. Valley Grove Church, Tupelo

12. Holly Church, Corinth, is hosting a fall festival Oct. 31, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., including cake walk, inflatables, food, games, hayrides, etc. Admission is a canned food donation.

13. Edwards Church, Edwards, recently ordained Duane P. Laird as deacon. Shown are interim pastor John G. McCall, Laird, and Patty Laird.

14. The Acteens of Mt. Horeb Church, Collins, visited the Seaman's Center in Pascagoula and the Women's Resource Center in Gulfport. The girls delivered items collected from church members and toured both facilities. They also toured a Filipino ship. Shown are the participants, along with Frances and Adrian Turner with the Seaman's Center.

15. First Church, State Line, recently recognized Thomas R. Culpepper for over 50 years of service as deacon. He was honored with a plaque and special service Sept. 20. Shown are Culpepper, the pastor, other deacons, and two associational missions directors.

16. Valley Grove Church, Tupelo, ordained Kelly Stewart and his son Jordan as deacons, Aug. 16. Shown are Becki Stewart, Kelly Stewart, pastor Jason Clouse, Jordan Stewart, and Brandi Stewart.

17. The Women on Mission of Meadville Church, Meadville, prepared buckets for the African AIDS mission. Shown are the participants.

18. Cedar View Church, Olive Branch, ordained Ed Massey as deacon Sept. 23. Shown are Judy Massey, Massey, and pastor Joe Caldwell.

19. First Church, Kosciusko, ordained Ryan Lindsay as deacon Sept. 20. Shown are Lindsay and pastor Barry C. Corbett.

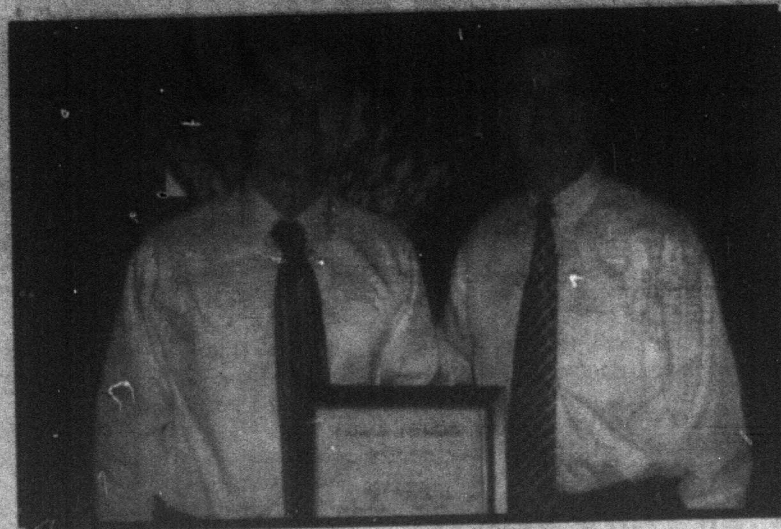
20. Meadville Church, Meadville, ordained Grady Huff as deacon Sept. 20. Shown are James Sadler, Sharon Huff, Huff, and interim pastor Emory May.



17. Meadville Church, Meadville



18. Cedar View Church, Olive Branch



19. First Church, Kosciusko



20. Meadville Church, Meadville



BAPTISTS

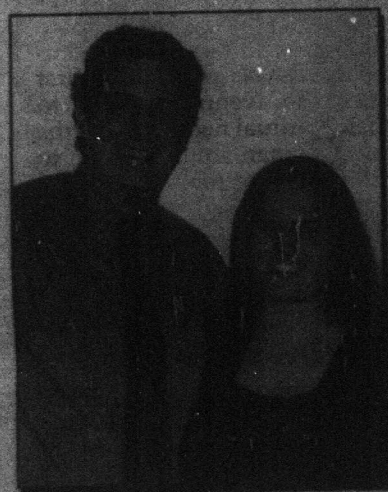


## STAFF CHANGES

1. **First Church, Nettleton**, recently called Donald Pounders as pastor, with his installation service Oct. 4. Shown are Pounders, Gay Pounders, Tammy Howard, and Marc Howard.
2. **Calvary Church, Pascagoula**, has called Derrick Tapper as pastor effective Oct. 4. Shown are Tapper and his wife Laura.
3. **Parkway Church, Tupelo**, has called John Mark Jarrett as youth minister. He is a Blue Mountain College graduate and is pursuing a Master's degree from Southeastern Seminary.



1. The Pounders and Howards



2. The Tappers



3. Jarrett

## JUST FOR THE RECORD

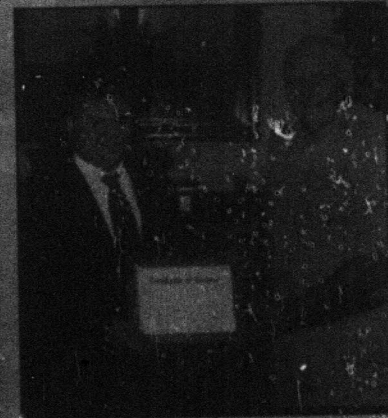
1. **Highland Church, Crystal Springs**, recognized its RAs, GAs, Acteens, and Mission Friends Aug. 30. Shown are the participants.
2. **Bethel Church, Bogue Chitto**, licensed Matthew Wallace to the gospel ministry. Wallace is minister of youth. Shown are Adam Moak, left, and Wallace.
3. **New Hope Church, Sumrall**, licensed Justin Mauldin to the gospel ministry Sept. 27. Shown are Mauldin and deacon chairman Sammy Herrin.
4. **Pine Grove Church, Picayune**, ordained Gary Mitchell, Kennon Peterson, Victor Cochran, and Joe Stinson as deacons. Shown are Mitchell, Peterson, Cochran, Stinson, and Tim Mims, pastor.



1. Highland Church, Crystal Springs



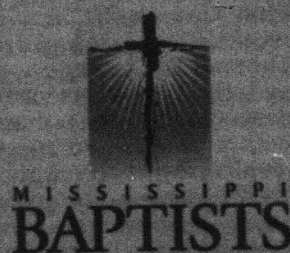
2. Bethel Church, Bogue Chitto



3. New Hope Church, Sumrall



4. Pine Grove Church, Picayune



## REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. **Ethel Church, Ethel**: Homecoming, Oct. 18; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch. Greg Spencer, pastor.
2. **First Church, Wiggins**: Revival, Oct. 18-22; Sun., 8:45 and 11 a.m., and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 6:30 p.m.; Dean Register, speaker; Brad Day, music.
3. **Zion Hill Church, Wesson**: Homecoming, Oct. 25, 10:45 a.m.; Tom McCormick, pastor.
4. **First Church, Rose Hill**: Homecoming and revival, Oct. 25-28; Sun., worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch and singing with Crimson City; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Russell Cook, speaker; Eddie Martin, pastor.
5. **Temple Church, Myrtle**: Revival, Oct. 18-21; Sun., 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Stevie and Stacy McKee, speaker and music; Donnie Schuman, pastor.
6. **First Church, Lyman**: Revival, Oct. 18-23; Sun., Sunday School, 9:30; services, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; David Evans, speaker.
7. **Calvary Church, Natchez**: Revival, Oct. 25-28; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jim Moss, speaker; Mike Harrigill, pastor.
8. **Galilee Church, Rockport**: Homecoming, Oct. 25; Servant Hearts singing, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch and music by Glory Land, 2 p.m.; Mike Grimm, speaker.
9. **East Louisville Church, Louisville**: 65th anniversary; Oct. 24, supper, 6 p.m., \$10 per person; Sun., Oct. 25, worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by covered dish meal; Kenneth Miller, speaker; Carol Luke Peterson, music.
10. **Pearlhaven Church, Brookhaven**: Homecoming and revival, Oct. 25-28; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch and afternoon singing with the Messengers Quartet; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Randy Lewman, speaker; Danney Bullock, music; Anthony Yarborough, pastor.
11. **Woodville Church, Woodville**: Revival, Oct. 25-28; Sun., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. nightly; Matthew Gullion, speaker, Southern Grace, music.
12. **Pine Grove Church, Dumas**: Centennial celebration, Oct. 25; services, 10 a.m., followed by potluck lunch and special centennial activities, 2 p.m.; Bill Foley, pastor.
13. **First Church, Clara**: Homecoming, Oct. 25; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; services, 11 a.m., followed by potluck lunch; Tim Glaze, speaker; Brittini Ward, music; Richard Bradley, pastor.
14. **First Church, Houlika**: Revival, Oct. 18-21; Sun., 10 a.m., followed by lunch and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Randy Rinehart, speaker; Melinda Kopp, music; David Blackwell, pastor.
15. **Chunky Church, Chunky**: Homecoming and revival, Oct. 18-22; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by potluck lunch; Mon.-Thurs., 7 p.m.; Brad Campbell, Wayne Edwards, Mike Ragland, Justin Busby, and Keith Ramage, speakers; Wayne Campbell, pastor.

## OBITUARY

**Wesley P. Miley**, 87, Bay Springs, died at his home Sept. 18. He had pastored for 52 years. He is survived by his wife Ruby; one daughter, Barbara Ann Hutto, Bay Springs; two sons, Alton Wayne Miley, Ridgeland, and Wesley Allen Miley (Paula), Clinton; five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren; three sisters, Carrie Currie, Emily Slay, and Betty Sue Higgins, Mendenhall; two brothers, Wayne R. Miley, Grenada, and Eddie R. Miley, Louisville.

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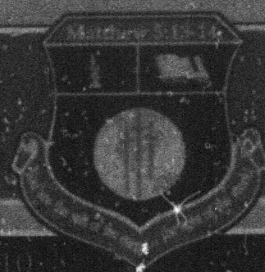
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# Practical Principles for Christian Living



## The World is Hungry!

By Jimmy Porter  
Miss. Baptist Christian Action Commission

The pastor began his sermon with this statement, "The world is hungry!" He paused and stood silently to allow the words to rumble around in the minds of his congregation. Then he asked, "How many of you are wondering why they are hungry and for what are they hungry?" Over half raised their hands.

The simple truth is that the world is hungry for food, not peace, not universal health care, nor more money, just basic food. It is fairly safe to assume that you, like me, know very little about malnutrition and hunger. But many in our world face a crisis every day—no food. The United Nations reported in June 2009 that approximately 1.02 billion people are acutely hungry every day.

The world's population is estimated to be around 6.788 billion as of Sept. 30, 2009. Approximately 1 billion live in developed or industrialized nations like the United States. Over 5 billion reside in developing countries where 1.2 billion live below the international poverty line of income less than \$1 per day. Among this latter group 820 million plus eat less than the amount of calories necessary for health and



Porter

growth. Throughout the world there is estimated to be 854 million people undernourished.

The United States Department of Agriculture estimates that 13 million homes in America are "food insecure." It is factual that 23 million adults and 12 mil-

lion children consume less calories than is deemed necessary each day.

Hunger and poverty are directly related so that means there is hunger in Mississippi. No city or county is immune to this situation. Too often we never go into areas where it exists, therefore "out of sight, out of mind." October is World Hunger Month for Southern Baptists so this is a great time for us to ask, "How can I help with this need?" "What is my church doing?"

We can all pray for those who are experiencing hunger at this moment. We can pray for those who are attempting to minister to those who are hungry in our communities, states, nation and world. Also we can pray for God to show us

how we might personally get involved with a ministry that is focused on alleviating hunger.

Many of our churches and/or associations have ministries that supply food to those in need. They are always in need of volunteers and food supplies. Be creative and get the children and youth involved. In one church I am familiar with, the G. A.'s are mixing up bags of beans for soup and offering them to the congregation for a donation. The proceeds will go to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund.

Why the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund and what are Southern Baptists doing about world hunger? In 2008 Southern Baptist missionaries were instrumental in implementing 500 hunger and relief projects around the world. Over 5 million meals were prepared and fed to the hungry in North America alone. The gospel was shared over 785,000 times due to these hunger ministries and 36,000 people professed faith in Christ.

The reason I prefer our World Hunger Fund to other programs is that 100% of your gift and mine goes to minister to the hungry in Jesus' name. When a dollar is given, 80 cents goes to the International Mission Board for overseas

hunger projects and 20 cents goes to the North American Mission Board to support hunger projects in the United States and Canada. The fact is that we have the organization in place to manage these funds and projects, and there is NO overhead or administrative costs.

In Mississippi all of the monies collected through our churches, groups and individuals for world hunger are forwarded to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund for distribution. Some of these funds are returned to our state when requested by the local associations for their hunger ministries.

God cares for the needy and so should we. Hundreds and thousands of churches are providing for the needy in addition to what the SBC is doing but more needs to be done. Did not Jesus tend to the physical needs of individuals first which opened the avenue for Him to deal with their spiritual needs? Proverbs 21:13 states, "If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered."

Additional information and resources can be found by visiting [www.world-hungerfund.com](http://www.world-hungerfund.com) and/or [www.christian-action.com](http://www.christian-action.com). You are always welcome to call us at 601-292-3329 if you have a question that needs immediate attention.

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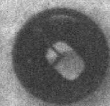
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## GIFTS OF HONOR AND MEMORY

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals want to pay tribute to others through this special, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is especially for second graders, with teachers and parents encouraged to submit their children's names and a short message about them.

AUG. 18 - SEPT. 11, 2009

### MEMORIALS

Hon. James P. Knight, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Newman III  
Florence Lamborn  
Dr. & Mrs. Ben Burnett & Lane  
Thomas & Martha Spears  
Mr. Arthur Land  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Walter James Langford  
Ms. Faye C. Kelly  
Dora Lee  
Stanton BC-Natchez  
Mrs. Beverly Lee  
Joe B. Hartley SSC, FBC-Batesville  
Mr. Pat Lester  
Mrs. Joy B. Roberts  
Mr. & Mrs. J. V. Parker  
Jasper Lipscomb  
Ms. Lynda L. Allen  
Mr. Perry Little  
Mrs. Joy B. Roberts  
Mrs. Virgie Ruth Lofton  
Richard & Tony Rogers  
Mrs. Corine Lott  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie L. Manton  
Mrs. Christin Louk  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas R. Woodward  
Mr. O. D. Lupo, Jr.  
Hazelhurst HS Class of 1948  
Frances "Sis" Madden  
Ladies SSC, Tuscola BC-Lena  
Jean Moore Marshall  
Mrs. Edith M. Aldridge & Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Allen  
Ms. Carolyn A. Pepper  
Mrs. Juel Massa  
Mrs. Joy L. Harris  
Hazelhurst HS Class of 1948  
Women's Bible Class, FBC-Hazelhurst

Dr. Henry McCrory  
Dr. & Mrs. Jay Hubbard  
Mrs. Ruby R. Shelton  
Mrs. Opal McCullough  
Ms. Kathy Dee Patrick  
Rusty McKee  
Mr. Russell M. McKee Jr.  
Mrs. Verlon McKibben  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Albritton  
Ben L. McMillon  
Dr. Clinton E. Wallace  
Mrs. Hallie McNease  
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Hatton  
Mr. Leon McWhorter  
Mrs. Penny Merle Gatewood  
Ruth Measels  
Mrs. Wilma Davis  
Earl Mitchell  
McAdams BC  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
W. G. Mitchell  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Coward Jr.  
Winnie Earl Moak  
Jerry & Janie Sisco  
Mr. Guy Moffett, Jr.  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Mrs. Axie Morris  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenny Greer  
Vince S. Mullen  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank O. Crosthwaite Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Myers  
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Haskins  
Mr. Stan Nabors  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom W. Doolittle  
Dakota Nanney  
Ms. Laurie McBride  
Mr. Billy Newsom  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Marty Nicholson  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy D. Little  
Mrs. Marvalyne Nix  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard D. Speck

Malcolm Norwood  
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Flemmons  
John Pepper, Jr.  
Mrs. Addie M. Holloway  
Judy Pickett  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Viola Pigg  
Mr. & Mrs. James Austin Alford  
Joe Pinnix  
Mrs. Doris J. Young  
Frances Polke  
Mrs. Mary F. Ladner  
Devon Pope  
Henry & Modene Davis  
Mrs. Frances Pope  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Churchwell  
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse L. Craft  
Winnie Maude Posey  
Mr. & Mrs. Percy J. Peeler  
Clara Christine Powell  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Oakes  
Dorothy McIver Powell  
42 Club  
Glenda Pylate  
Pine Burr BC-Columbia  
Mrs. Lois Rayner  
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace A. Clay  
Mrs. Margaret Reed  
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Snowden  
Mary Reese  
Mr. Clarence R. Rhett  
Mrs. Amy Jean Rhoden  
Mr. William C. Callender  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Williams  
Jeff & Rene Dungan  
Austin Rhodes  
Ms. Laurie McBride  
Mrs. Mildred Lilley  
Richardson  
Fidelis SSC, Morrison Heights BC  
Ms. Cile T. Alexander  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Richardson  
Friendship Class, FBC-Flora  
Mr. & Mrs. David T. Hagerman  
Laurie Rickett  
Ms. Louise S. Oswalt  
Alice Aline "Tennie" Roberson  
Mr. J. Homer Benton  
Mrs. Margie McDaniel  
Ms. Camille S. Conerly  
Macy Albritton Robison  
Mr. & Mrs. Clay Robison  
Rev. Joe Royalty  
Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Glen Polk & Family  
Reid Rushing  
Ms. Kathy Dee Patrick  
Mrs. Dimple Seal  
Daniel, Dianne, Tiffany & Aliss Smith  
Mr. Connie Seawright, III  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Mr. Eddie Self  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Mr. Mitchell Simmons  
Jeff & Rene Dungan  
Ed Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Hubert T. Kendrick  
Eileen Smith  
Reece & Martha Douglas  
Mr. O. J. Smith  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Mr. Charlie Sommers  
Mr. & Mrs. Hale Singletary  
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Royston  
Mrs. Louise Spence  
Mr. & Mrs. Lendon E. Brown  
Eunice Stokes  
Mr. & Mrs. R. W. Stokes  
Mrs. Connie Stone  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Mrs. Richard (Susan) Stowe  
Mrs. Virginia C. Quarles  
Mr. Hobby Stringer  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie L. Manton

Mrs. Dixie Lee Stringer  
Ms. Karen M. Johnson  
Mildred Sullivan  
Mrs. Joy L. Harris  
Iris Terrell  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony DeLee  
Joe Tiffany III  
Pat Macon  
Mr. Joseph Benjamin Tiffany II  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Niemeyer  
Jack Turner  
Mr. & Mrs. George R. Faulk  
Mrs. Patsy Cliburn Tynes  
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd F. Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Hubert T. Kendrick  
Mr. Billy Walker  
Gerald & Louise Combs  
Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Waller  
Mr. & Mrs. James S. Pilgrim  
Mrs. Adrienne Wamble  
Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Hatten  
Jimmy & Jo Jenkins  
Mary Warren  
Mr. & Mrs. Hubert T. Kendrick  
Mr. James Weaver  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Lee Rick Wedgeworth  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph L. Carroll  
Mrs. Mattie Wheat  
Daniel, Dianne, Tiffany & Aliss Smith  
Tressie Williamson  
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm M. Carter  
Rev. Thomas Wilson, Sr.  
Ms. Evelyn W. Sanderford  
Mrs. Roena Wilson  
Mr. & Mrs. Percy J. Peeler

SEPT. 12 - OCT. 7, 2009

### HONORS

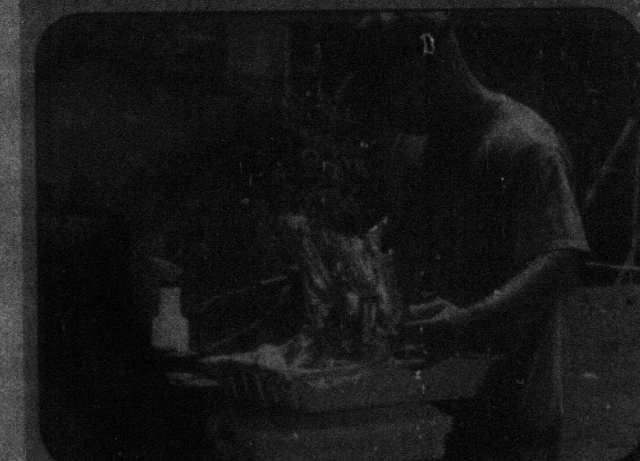
Margaret Barber  
Ms. Mary H. McMillin  
Mr. & Mrs. Ardell Frazier  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy W. Hardy  
Luke Henderson  
Dr. & Mrs. Roy W. Daughdrill  
Mrs. Johnnie McKnight  
Mr. & Mrs. Don Smith & Family  
Carol Moore  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Thomas

### MEMORIALS

Malcom J. Alford, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Perry E. Atherton  
Truett Allen  
James & Peggy Palmer  
Leola Alvis  
Bovina BC-Vicksburg  
Johnny Armstrong  
Buck & Alma Jo Kennedy  
Mrs. Frances Askew  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles G. Gore Jr.  
Kenneth R. Baker  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas D. James  
Mrs. Arbelles Barkemeyer  
Bernard Meisenhoelder  
Louise Meisenhoelder  
Sam A. Meisenhoelder

Joyce Barnett  
Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Barnett  
Lucille Walker Batton  
Mr. & Mrs. Gwinn H. Gordon  
Mrs. Pearl West Bell  
Mrs. Nancy Carlisle  
Rev. Percy Berry  
Mr. Walter Barbee  
Mrs. Jean Bills  
Rich & Frances Defenbaugh

Mr. & Mrs. Jay Gore III  
Robert Jr. Blaine  
Ladies Adult 4 SSC-McCool BC  
Bob Boggan  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Baker  
Chad Bowen  
Mr. & Mrs. David Dewitt



Second Baptist Church of Kosciusko, Mississippi hosted a cookout for the residents and staff of Ramey Cottage on the newest campus of The Baptist Children's Village in Nanih Waiya, Mississippi just south of Louisville. The children had a great time and enjoyed the good food, games and especially the waterslide. It was a great day for all!

## FALL PROJECT IDEAS

Collect long-distance calling cards for the children to use to stay in touch with their families while in care of The BCV. Mail cards to P.O. Box 27, Clinton, MS 39060-0027.

Collect cleaning supplies and paper products for a campus nearest you. We are doing our fall cleaning and getting ready for cooler weather to come to Mississippi. We need your help to provide cleaning supplies this fall and throughout the year to one of our seven campuses located in the following counties: Hinds, Lincoln, Marion, Stone, Tate, Winston & Yalobusha. Supplies may be delivered to a campus any weekday between 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. All visitors coming after hours and on weekends must be scheduled in advance. Please call 601-922-2242 or email [bcv@baptistchildrensvillage.com](mailto:bcv@baptistchildrensvillage.com) for more information or to schedule a visit.

## Christian Concert Ticket Sponsors

In the next few months there are several contemporary Christian music groups coming to Mississippi in concert. The music these groups perform is the kind our residents enjoy, but at the same time it is wholesome music with the truth and message of Jesus Christ that the residents desperately need reinforced in their lives. Some of the groups coming are Mercy Me, Casting Crowns, etc. We need sponsors to help cover the expense of the tickets. Please send your monetary gifts for these events to The Baptist Children's Village, P.O. Box 27, Clinton MS 39060. Please note in the memo of your check: Concerts. For more information please call 601-922-2242 or email [bcv@baptistchildrensvillage.com](mailto:bcv@baptistchildrensvillage.com)



## BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

### The Hero Betrayed

Mark 14:27-34, 37-38, 43, 48-50

By Ken Anderson

This lesson demonstrates how the disciples betrayed and abandoned Jesus even though they had expressed determination to be faithful.

#### Unaware of the Danger 14:27-31

After Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, He led his disciples to the Mount of Olives and prepared them for the dark events of their betrayal. They would be "offended" (KJV), "stumble" (NKJV), or "fall away" (NIV) as prophesied by Zechariah (Zech. 13:7), (vs. 27). The events of the night would cause them to temporarily lose courage. On the other hand the darkness would pass and be replaced by a victorious earthly reunion (vs. 28). All the disciples heard was the prediction of their betrayal which trumped the victorious meeting with Christ in Galilee.

Peter, with his characteristic

self-confidence, interrupted Jesus and expressed his determination to be faithful, even if others would not (vs. 29). The other disciples affirmed for themselves Peter's bold stances also (vs. 31). Peter revealed his misplaced faithfulness that night but then betrayed Jesus in the courtyard of the high priest (Vs. 68-71).

#### Asleep in the danger 14:32-34, 37-38

Jesus then led the eleven disciples to the entrance of Gethsemane (olive press). Leaving eight of the disciples at the edge of the garden, He took the inner circle, Peter, James and John, further into the garden. Jesus needed the company and prayer support from his closest friends as He revealed the depth of his feelings. (vs. 34). Christ knew the full extent of the coming horrors of the cross and the temptations of the disciples. Their temptations



Anderson

could have been avoided if nourished with prayer. Yet, they were unaware of the extent of Jesus' agony and their pending dilemma.

"... 'Simon', he said to Peter 'are you asleep?'" (NIV) Peter's behavior was of Simon, the man, not Peter, the spiritual rock. The disciples' sleep could be understandable. After all they had a physically draining day, plus a large Passover meal. Nevertheless, Christ expected them to keep on praying and to keep on being alert. They needed to be spiritually keen due to the coming temptations. It was not that Peter was insincere about his commitment (vs. 29), but the frailty of human flesh (nature) yielded to the prominence of the spirit. Christ also was physically taxed, yet the need for prayer was greater than the need for sleep.

#### Feeling Danger 14:43, 48-50

While Jesus was still talking, Judas, with a cowardly mob of officials, entered the garden. Jesus took control of the situation and confronted them in a

clear and direct manner. He exposed their cowardice of coming under the cover of darkness as if He was "leading a rebellion" (NIV). His teachings in the Temple were not secretive or rebellious. If there was a just charge against Him, they could have arrested Him during the day. Nevertheless, Jesus knew that the "scriptures must be fulfilled" (KJV), (Isa. 53:7, 10, & 12).

While Jesus was in full control, the disciples were not. The prophecy of verse twenty-seven was fulfilled. Even Peter, in spite of his emphatic boast and strong promise of loyalty, fled with the other disciples. In the face of fear they contradicted their loyal affirmations made earlier.

#### Insights:

##### Spiritual Overconfidence

Peter's overconfidence in his sincere and brave words set him up for failure. He understood himself to be the exception to all others. There is some value in the adage, "never say, never." Paul warned the Corinthian Christians and Christians today, "Let anyone who thinks he stands take heed

lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12). We cannot stand in our hours of crisis without humility before and dependence on God's help.

#### Prayer

Prayer is important in our daily schedules. Temptations are just as real and cunning. The enemy is no less weak, and our issues are just as crucial today. Someone has correctly said, "crises, are often forced upon us, but prayer time is a choice." If the disciples had prayed "in the garden," they would have been spiritually alert and avoided the temptation to run. "Temptation is more than something to be met and conquered, it is also something to be avoided" - Matthew Poole.

Though Jesus was disappointed that the disciples were not praying, He was not alone. His earthly life had been a constant fellowship with the heavenly father. He met the events of that night and all the horrors of the cross with confidence and strength born out of His communion with God.

Anderson is Transitional Pastor, Tremont First Baptist Church, Tremont.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### When I Am Afraid

Psalms 56

By Ginger M. Caughman

"I'm scared Nana. I hope Mommy and Daddy are all right."

Recently our almost 5-year-old grandson visited in Mississippi. During a severe storm, lightning popped all around, making a thunderous earsplitting noise and causing the security siren to sound. He was so frightened. I held Dane in my rocking chair and sang to him. He went to sleep still traumatized by the memory of Hurricane Gustav when trees fell all over his yard, crushing his playhouse, and electricity was off for an extended time.

#### 1. Admit Your Fears, vs. 1-7

When are you afraid? During bad weather conditions, medical tests, health issues, concerns involving family members and friends, deteriorating relationships, change... You can fill in the blanks of your needs this week.

Fear is a human reaction to danger and sometimes becomes a necessary defense mechanism for survival. Fear can be irrational and paralyzing. We can all name times we acted in fear during a crisis.

"What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee!" (Ps. 56:3). I have quoted this verse to my anxious mind during a lightning storm in an airplane high above the earth. Waiting for test results. During Hurricane Katrina as we saw our giant red oak sway, twist, then split and fall as we ran to the front of our house... (Hold your fearful memories before God).

In today's text, David was in very real physical danger from his enemies, but he made a conscious decision to put his trust in God. "Be merciful to me God, for..."

#### 2. Focus on God, vs. 8-9

"Put my tears into Thy bottle" (v. 8, KJV). What a beautiful



Caughman

poetic phrase of God's assurance; the promise that God knows our tears, fears, concerns, worries, and sorrows. Another translation states, "Record my lament; list my tears on your scroll — are they not in Your record?" (NIV). The Psalmist pours out his heart to God. So can we.

We're reminded by Jesus not to worry about things or about tomorrow (Matt. 6:34; 10:31; Luke 12:28). Storms can be physical, mental, and spiritual. In everything we are to trust God! Remember: "He leads me...restores my soul...comforts. I will not fear for God is with me!" (Psalm 23).

Read Scripture aloud and let your focus be on God: "The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear, the Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid?" (Ps. 27:1).

The outstanding evangelist, Dwight L. Moody (1837-1899), wrote of his early fear of

death. In his childhood New England village, a bell tolled the age of a person who died. After he trusted Christ, that fear was essentially taken away. He was fearless during the Civil War, the great Chicago fire, and the cholera and smallpox epidemics. However, in 1892 on a sinking ship, to his surprise, the fear returned. "I had thought myself superior to the fear of death. I thought of my loved ones at home and it was the darkest hour of my life. I could not endure. Relief came through prayer. God enabled me to say, 'Thy will be done.' Seven-hundred passengers were saved by a passing ship."

Moody's ministry was strengthened, and by God's grace, he had great faith and no more fear! His words are often quoted: "Someday you will read in the papers that D. L. Moody is dead. Don't you believe it. At that moment I shall be more alive than now in a body that death cannot touch! That which is born of the Spirit will live forever!"

His epitaph reads: "He that doeth the will of God abideth forever" (1 John 2:17).

#### 3. Follow Through with Praise vs. 10-13

Obedience and thankfulness are proper responses to God when He delivers us from threatening situations. Praise God for His presence and for our deliverance! "Faith brings forth praises. He who can trust will soon sing" (Spurgeon).

We must come to God in quiet trust, surrendering our humanity, fear, pride, our very selves to His all-sufficient grace, mercy, love, and light! Sing: "How Firm a Foundation"! Trusting like my grandson, I must let God hold me when I am afraid.

#### PRAYER THOUGHT

Lord, help me remember to pray like David: "Be merciful to me, O God. When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose Word I praise, I will not be afraid." Amen.

Caughman teaches the Bible and sings in two choirs at First Church, Magee.

## Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

**THE BAPTIST**  
**Record**

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lit. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.



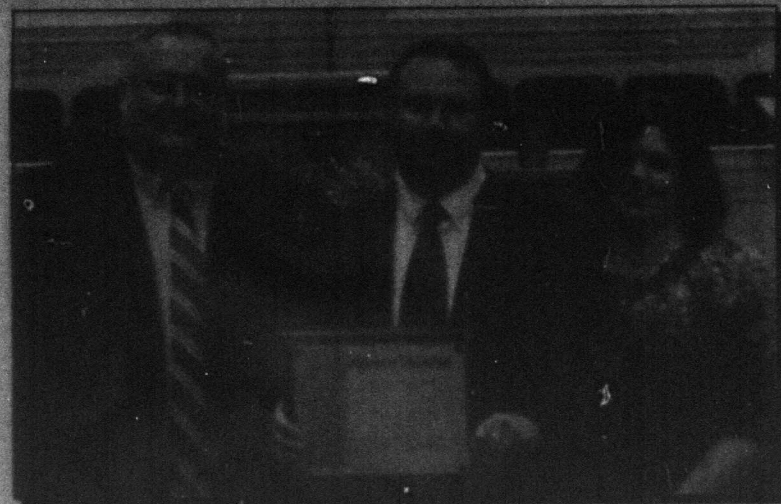
## JUST FOR THE RECORD



2. Morrison Chapel Church, Cleveland



3. ESL class members



4. Silver Creek Church, Pike County



5. New Prospect Church, Oxford

1. West Laurel Church, Laurel, honored Ouida Graves for 29 years of service as church pianist with a reception Sept. 6.

2. Morrison Chapel Church, Cleveland, recently ordained Gary Singley and Taylor Burrell as deacons. Shown are Singley, pastor John Arthur Thomas, and Burrell.

3. First Church, Columbia, and Hurricane Creek Church, Sandy Hook, host English as a Second Language classes weekly, taught by volunteers from various churches. Shown are the participants.

4. Silver Creek Church, Pike County, ordained Lloyd Thompson to the gospel ministry Sept. 20. He serves the church as minister of youth. Shown are pastor Jimmy T. Smith Jr., Thompson, and Sandy Thompson.

5. New Prospect Church, Oxford, licensed Adam Smith to the ministry Sept. 13. Shown are Angie and Ken White, and Adam and pastor, Dawn Smith.

6. Grace United Church, Decatur, recently ordained Gerald Matlock and Phil Smith as deacons. Shown are Matlock, pastor Mark McDonald, and Smith.

7. Center Hill Church, Olive Branch: Vacation Bible School; this was the church's first VBS in over 10 years, with an average of nine staff and 21 students participating. Shown are the participants.

8. Forest Church, Forest, ordained Drew Kenna and Dale Williamson as deacons Aug. 30. Shown are Kery Kenna, Kenna, Williamson, and Crissie Williamson.

9. First Church, Byhalia, recently ordained Russ McClure as deacon. Shown are Heather McClure, McClure, and pastor Anthony P. Langley.

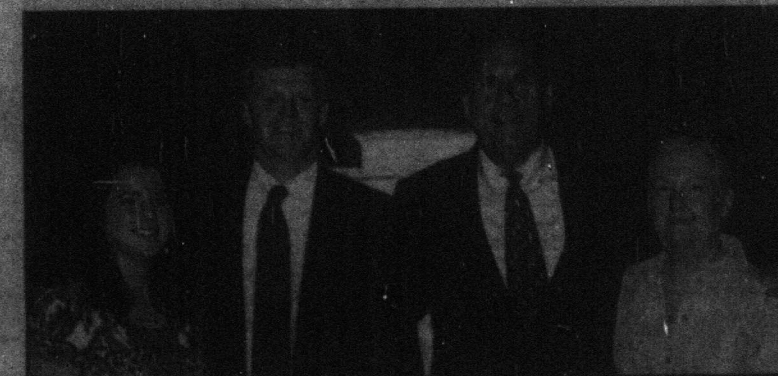
10. First Church, Richland, recently ordained Lee Pickett, Rob Spotswood, and Brian Jones as deacons. Shown are Pickett, Jennifer Pickett, Spotswood, Lori Spotswood, and Jones and Brandy Jones.



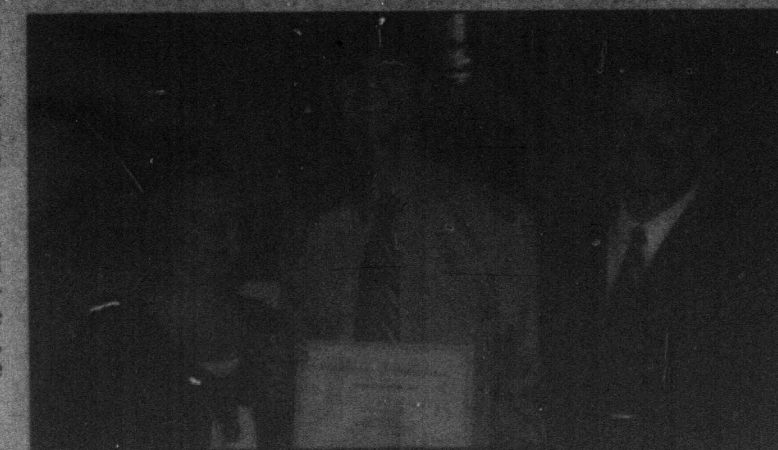
6. Grace United Church, Decatur



7. Center Hill Church, Olive Branch



8. Forest Church, Forest



9. First Church, Byhalia



10. First Church, Richland

